IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

xaminer: W.C. Vesperman
Group Art Unit: 2813
17, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND LETTER FORWARDING SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: